

RECOGNIZING MRS. DORIS STEEN IVY FOR HER COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today Mrs. Doris Steen Ivy. Mrs. Ivy has proven to be a woman of tenacity, dedication, and compassion.

She is a resident of Rolling Fork, Mississippi, but was raised in the town of Anguilla. In 1972, Mrs. Ivy obtained her Bachelors of English degree from Mississippi Valley State University and later received her Master's of Science from Jackson State University in 1979.

After graduating from Jackson State University, Doris began teaching English for the South Delta School District in Rolling Fork, Mississippi, where she served as a Department Chair.

From 1992–1993, Mrs. Ivy taught English Composition I and II as an adjunct professor at Mary Holmes Junior College in West Point, Mississippi, and served as a Mississippi Teacher's Accountability Instrument Evaluator. Doris served as an ACT protector for twenty-two years and Drug-Free and Safety facilitator for South Delta High School for fourteen years as well as advisor for the South Delta High School peer counseling program. This program was able to provide food and inspirational services to members of the elderly community in Rolling Fork. In 2011, Mrs. Ivy furthered her commitment to literacy by becoming certified as a Library Media Specialist.

She is the wife of Mr. Sammie Ivy; to their union they have two children, Stephanie and Steven. Mrs. Ivy is a faithful member of Chapel of the Cross Church, where she has served as secretary for over thirty years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join us in recognizing Mrs. Doris Steen Ivy for her unwavering commitment to serving as a role model and educator for the children of the South Delta School District.

HONORING ELIZABETH "BETH" BARNES

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Elizabeth "Beth" Barnes, Tuolumne County Senior Veterans Services Representative, who will retire in December 2012, after 35 years of outstanding service to our veterans.

Elizabeth "Beth" Barnes was born October 2, 1945, in San Andreas, California. Beth moved to Tuolumne County in 1967 and went to work at Brown's Drive Inn in 1972. On June 1, 1977, she was hired on as a Housekeeper at Tuolumne General Hospital. On June 5, 1982, she was promoted to a clerk typist in the Veterans Office. Beth was then promoted to Senior Veterans Services Representative on November 5, 2000.

Beth married Harold "Barney" Barnes on March 26, 1965. Barney went to work for Ras-

mussen Lumber Company, now known as the Sierra Pacific Industries, in Chinese Camp on September 12, 1965, and retired on June 28, 2012. Beth and Barney have three sons: Stephen, Harold Jr. (Chip) and wife Debbie, and Rick and wife Sheila. Stephen and Rick both enlisted in the Marines and each served eight years.

Beth's first passion is her family and home, then her family of veterans. She served as the Secretary of the California Association of County Veterans Service Officers from 1992 until 2012. She also served as the Secretary of the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers from 2006 to 2012.

Over the years, Beth's name has become synonymous with Veterans Services. Before most of us had even entered public service, Beth had gained a reputation for her vast experience helping veterans and their families apply for and obtain their benefits. Her devotion to veterans is not only professional, but personal. Many of her family members have served in the military, so it is not surprising that working with veterans has become her life's work.

The work that Beth has chosen to do makes significant differences for our veterans—from applying for financial compensation, to ensuring veterans receive appropriate medical care, to helping their dependents with health insurance and college tuition. She has filed claims and advised veterans from the Spanish-American War, WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Beirut, Grenada, Panama, Iraq and Afghanistan. These benefits also help our community. Between 2009 and 2010, over one million dollars in new one-time benefits were obtained.

Beth has numerous accreditations and affiliations with the following agencies: Accreditations with American Legion; California Department of Veteran Affairs; Disabled American Veterans; National Association of County Veteran Service Officers; California Association of County Veteran Service Officers; Veterans of Foreign Wars; American Veterans; Military Order of the Purple Heart; Retired Enlisted Association; World War I of USA; Vietnam Veterans of America; Jewish War Veterans; and Catholic War Veterans.

To quote Beth: "This is more than a job; it's a life."

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending Beth Barnes, Tuolumne County Senior Veterans Representative, for her many years of selfless service to our veterans and the betterment of our community.

IN MEMORY OF UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO LIBYA JOHN CHRISTOPHER STEVENS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my Northern California colleagues GEORGE MILLER, JACKIE SPEIER, ZOE LOFGREN, MIKE THOMPSON, LYNN WOOLSEY, ANNA ESHOO, DORIS MATSUI, PETE STARK, JOHN GARAMENDI, JERRY MCNERNEY, MIKE HONDA, and SAM FARR of California, to honor, celebrate, and remember Ambassador John Christopher "Chris" Stevens. A son of Northern

California and the Bay Area, Ambassador Stevens tragically lost his life in the greatest service to this country—selflessly and courageously representing American values in a foreign nation he knew intimately and cared for deeply.

Born in 1960 in Grass Valley, California, Ambassador Stevens made a mark early in life as a student at Piedmont High School, where he participated with enthusiasm in academics, the performing arts, and tennis. His education in the 9th Congressional District continued upon his admission to the University of California, Berkeley. As a History major, he delved into studies of the Near East and became a member of the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity. Later, he earned a law degree from another Bay Area institution, UC Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco. His subsequent work in international trade law preceded the takeoff of his diplomatic career in 1991.

Ambassador Stevens' passion for foreign service began early, starting with his high school participation in an AFS Intercultural Program in Spain and blossoming during his years as a Peace Corps volunteer in Morocco. The diverse and instrumental positions he held as a member of the U.S. Foreign Service in Israel, Syria, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Libya and Washington, D.C., among others, helped to build his deep and personal understanding of the Middle and Near East.

A fluent Arabic speaker, Stevens was selected by President Obama to be the U.S. Special Representative to the National Transitional Council in Libya, undertaking the complicated task of creating connections with insurgents and tribal groups on behalf of the United States. As the Qaddafi regime crumbled, Ambassador Stevens worked passionately towards establishing a nascent Libyan democracy. In the process, he created innumerable personal friendships and professional relationships with Libyans—not only with officials and diplomats, but with everyday people.

In his diplomatic capacity, Ambassador Stevens brought a profound and prolific knowledge of the Arab world to his assignment. His exemplary gift for making personal connections was invaluable in his role as Special Representative and, later, Ambassador, to one of the most complex and challenging regions of the world. Therefore, as we join in recognizing Ambassador Stevens amidst a sober outpouring of praise from his family, colleagues, fellow Americans, and the leaders of this nation, we remember that Chris Stevens was beloved by many Libyans, as well.

In remembering Ambassador Stevens, we also honor the three other Americans who bravely sacrificed their lives alongside him: Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty. The mournful loss of these members of the Foreign Service will not be forgotten. We pay tribute to all of them today and keep their families in our thoughts. We also express our deepest sympathy and condolences to Ambassador Stevens' family, to whom he was a devoted son, brother and stepson who always made time for visits home despite the incredible demands of his diplomatic missions.

Therefore, on behalf of the residents of California's 1st, 5th, 6th, 7th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th Congressional Districts, we join President Barack Obama, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI and an expansive global network of supporters in saluting Ambassador John Christopher Stevens.